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August 14, 1999

Dockets Management Branch (HFA-305)
Food and Drug Administration
5630 Fishers Lane, Room 1061
Rockville, MD 20852

Re: Docket Numbers 98N-1230; 96P-0418; 97P-0197

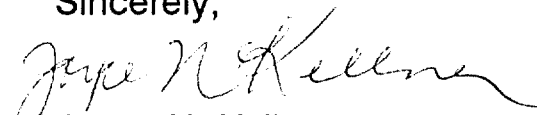
I am writing to encourage you to act responsibly on the matter of forced molting of hens.

Ever since I learned about this practice I have been very leery about buying eggs and often avoid doing so. When I do buy eggs, I feel it is prudent to seek eggs from cage-free operations.

I expect it is the role of regulatory agencies like the FDA to take appropriate action to protect food products. Since it is known that forced molting makes hens ill and they, naturally, produce tainted eggs not uncommonly, **the FDA must act to ban this practice.**

I will be following this subject to see if the FDA has acted as it is mandated to do so that harmful farm practices that contaminate our food supply are outlawed.

Sincerely,

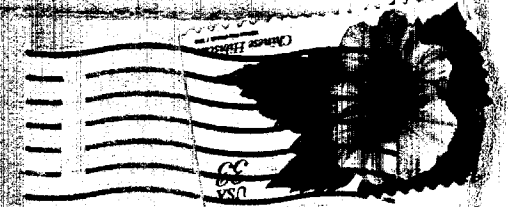

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96P-0418

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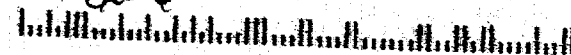
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20857/0001



CROSS FILE SHEET

File Number:

98N-1230/ C307

See File Number:

97P-0197/ C308

96P-0418/ C307